

Listing of claims:

Claim 1 (canceled)

Claim 2 (currently amended): A localcast transmitter, comprising:

a first interface;

first encoder coupled to said first interface;

a packet assembler coupled to said encoder and to the first interface such that the packet assembler receives input from the data encoder when transmitting at a first transmission speed and the packet assembler receives input from the first interface when transmitting at a second transmission speed, such that first encoder is bypassed when transmitting at the second transmission speed;

a control function coupled to said first interface, said encoder and said packet assembler;

a modulator, coupled to the packet assembler, that comprises a localcast mode;

and

an antenna coupled to the modulator ~~configured to receive information content in a localcast mode and in a broadcast mode, and to transmit information content in a localcast mode.~~

Claim 3 (previously presented): The localcast transmitter in claim 2, further comprising a data source for a local area transmission system.

Claim 4 (original): The localcast transmitter in claim 2, wherein the first interface is further comprised of at least one of a USB-compatible interface, an RS-232 interface, and an IEEE-1394 interface.

Claim 5 (previously presented): The localcast transmitter in claim 2, wherein the control function collects transmitted packets from a data source and performs handshaking functions.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The localcast transmitter in claim 2, further comprising a second encoder, wherein the second encoder only encodes data received from the first interface, and the first encoder only encodes a system information block.

Claim 7 (original): The localcast transmitter in claim 2, wherein the packet assembler further performs the steps of interleaving encoded system information into data segments; adding correlation information to said data segments; and converting said data segments into a bit stream.

Claim 8 (original): The localcast transmitter in claim 2, wherein the localcast transmitter is further configured to broadcast in a locally-unused portion of the FM band.

Claim 9 (previously presented): The localcast transmitter in claim 2, further comprising a data source that is further comprised of a personal computer system.

Claim 10 (previously presented): The localcast transmitter in claim 2, wherein the first encoder is further comprised of a first convolutional encoder for system information.

Claim 11 (original): The localcast transmitter in claim 10, wherein the encoder is further comprised of a second convolutional encoder for data.

Claims 12 - 43 (canceled)

Claim 44 (currently amended): A localcast transmitter included in a mobile device, wherein the mobile device includes a localcast mode and a broadcast mode, comprising:

means for interfacing with a data source;

means for encoding data provided by the data source for transmission;

means for assembling packets from data provided by the data source when transmitting at a first transmission speed and from data provided by the data source when

transmitting at a second transmission speed, such that the means for assembling packets is bypassed when transmitting at a second transmission speed; and

a means for transmitting the encoded data assembled packets provided by the data source over a locally-unused FM frequency when the mobile device is in the localcast mode and for receiving information content in a broadcast mode.

Claim 45 (previously presented): The localcast transmitter in claim 44, further comprising a means for control that is arranged to collect the data from the data source, set a desired transmission frequency, transmission mode, and signal power.

Claim 46 (previously presented): The localcast transmitter in claim 44, wherein the means for encoding data further comprises means for formatting the data into baseband samples.

Claim 47 (previously presented): The localcast transmitter in claim 44, wherein the means for transmitting further comprises means for processing that is arranged to add correlation information to the encoded data for synchronization.

Claim 48 (previously presented): The localcast transmitter in claim 47, wherein the means for processing further comprises means for interleaving data that is arranged to interleave the encoded data into segments.

Claim 49 (previously presented): The localcast transmitter in claim 44, wherein the means for transmission further comprises a means for modulation that is arranged to generate an FM frequency output in response to receipt of the encoded data.

Claim 50 (currently amended): A localcast transmitter included in a mobile device, wherein the mobile device includes a localcast mode and a broadcast mode, comprising:

an interface that is coupled to a data source, wherein the interface is arranged for receiving data from the data source when the mobile device is in a localcast mode ~~and when the mobile device is in a broadcast mode;~~

an encoder that is coupled to the interface, wherein the encoder is arranged to encode the received data to produce encoded data;

an assembler that is coupled to the encoder and to the interface such that the assembler receives input from the encoder when transmitting at a first transmission speed and the assembler receives input from the interface when transmitting at a second transmission speed, wherein the assembler is arranged to interleave the received input ~~encoded data~~ into data segments, add correlation information to the data segments, and convert the data segments into a bit stream;

a control function that is coupled to the interface, the encoder, and the assembler, wherein the control function is arranged to control handshaking functions; and

a modulator that is coupled to the assembler, wherein the modulator is arranged to generate an FM frequency output in response to the bit stream produced by the assembler, and provide an FM frequency output to an antenna.

Claim 51 (previously presented): The localcast transmitter in claim 50, wherein the interface is further comprised of at least one of a USB-compatible interface, an RS-232 interface, and an IEEE-1394 interface.

Claim 52 (previously presented): The localcast transmitter in claim 50, wherein the encoder further comprises a system encoder that is coupled to a data encoder.

Claim 53 (previously presented): The localcast transmitter in claim 52, wherein the encoder is further arranged such that data from the system encoder bypasses the data encoder when the mobile device is in a turbo mode.